



DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

In this publication, ground-water availability on a regional scale is indicated in terms of probable quantities of water available, depths at which water is commonly found, and water quality at sampled locations. Because of the complexity of ground-water occurrence, the foregoing information is presented on four map sheets.

Sheet 1: Supplies in Shallow Overburden
Sheet 2: Supplies in Deep Overburden
Sheet 3: Supplies in Bedrock
Sheet 4: Water Quality

Hydrogeologic interpretations are based on data obtained from approximately 8,000 water-well records on file with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and from data documented studies of ground-water availability. The appropriate references are listed on each map sheet. Reliability of the interpretations varies throughout the region and a periodic updating or revision of the present interpretations may be necessary as new hydrogeologic information becomes available.

It is important to note that the interpreted probable well yields may not everywhere represent yields available to all wells because of variations in local hydrogeology, type of well construction, and in the reliability of available data. However, the indicated yields are thought to be good approximations in most areas. In cases where reliable, long-term yields are sought, it is necessary to undertake detailed hydrogeologic investigations and pumping tests.

ASSESSING WATER REQUIREMENTS

In order to evaluate well yields, the amount of water required from a prospective well should first be estimated. To estimate the approximate domestic and livestock daily water requirements, multiply the number of users (people and animals) by the appropriate figure in the table below. If desired, an additional 20 to 30% can be added to the total to account for increased demand in the future. While individual residential needs are difficult to estimate, most homes with water-consuming items such as washing machines will average about 100 gallons per day per person.

It is important to take into account the water demand during peak periods of usage in order that the well does not run dry temporarily. This demand can be estimated by counting the number of fixtures and water outlets in the house which will be used at one time, and multiplying by the flow rate for each. Tables showing the flow rate per fixture can be obtained from water-supply equipment dealers.

Approximate Daily Water Requirements

Each member of the family	50-150 gallons per day
Kitchen, laundry, bath	35 gallons per day
For each producing milk cow	15 gallons per day
(incl. washing)	12 gallons per day
For each steer, horse	4 gallons per day
For each hog	2 gallons per day
For each sheep	6 gallons per day
For each 100 chickens	12 gallons per day

Note:—table modified from E. R. Hone, Farm Water Supply, Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, Publication 476.

For information on irrigation requirements, contact your Regional Office of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

EVALUATION OF PROSPECTIVE WELL SITES

By using the maps in this publication along with the following step-by-step procedure, prospective well sites can be evaluated in terms of probable yields, likely depths to water-bearing zones, and likely quality of water at each site. Subsequently, this information can be used in other decisions such as possible water treatment, pump type and size, well cost, and type of well construction to take into account the different types of well construction and their applications is appended.

The maps should be used in the suggested sequence in order to obtain the most economic wells. Map 3135-1 indicates yields from the shallowest formations and should be consulted first. Progressively deeper and more costly wells will have to be constructed as water is sought from deeper formations in order to obtain the yields indicated on maps 3135-3 and 3135-5.

Evaluation Procedure

- To evaluate yields:
 1. Locate the well site on Map 3135-1 of Sheet 1 (Yields from Shallow Overburden).
 2. Note the colour of the map at the well site.
 3. Refer to the legend and note the colour to the appropriate probable yield.
 4. If the probable yield does not meet your water requirements, repeat steps one through three using Map 3135-2 on Sheet 2 (Yields from Deep Overburden). Similarly, if probable yields determined from Map 3135-3 are insufficient, repeat the same steps using Map 3135-5 on Sheet 3 (Yields from Bedrock).
- To evaluate the depths to water-bearing zones:
 5. If Map 3135-1 was selected in the above steps, water-bearing zones occur in depths easily reached by shallow dug and bored wells and sand points.
 6. If Map 3135-2 was selected, locate the well site on Map 3135-4 and note the depth to the water-bearing zones by using the legend. If Map 3135-5 was selected, locate the well site on Map 3135-6 and note the depths to the water-bearing zones by using the legend.
 6. Exact depths to water-bearing zones for individual wells are shown on maps 3135-1, 3135-3 and 3135-5.
- To evaluate water quality:
 7. To evaluate the likely ground-water quality at a potential well site, locate the well on the selected yield map and note the nearby ground-water sampling points. Chemical analyses of these samples are found in the Inorganic Chemical Analyses tables 1, 2, and 3 on Sheet 4. To interpret the significance of the analyses, refer to Table 4 on Sheet 4.

A COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT WELL TYPES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

WELL TYPE	SUITABLE GEOLOGIC MATERIALS	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
DUG WELLS	OVERBURDEN both low- and high-yielding materials (gravel, sand, silt, clay)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not require special machinery to construct Large diameter provides reservoir storage; augments low yields Can be constructed in areas of limited access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labour intensive to construct Depth is limited because of lack of casing Well failure is common during dry periods because of usually shallow depths
BORED WELLS	OVERBURDEN both low- and high-yielding materials (gravel, sand, silt, clay)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efficient method of constructing large-diameter wells Large diameter provides reservoir storage; augments low yields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depth is usually limited because of well-drilling equipment limitations and very hard earth materials low yields
DRILLED WELLS	OVERBURDEN AND BEDROCK moderate to high-yielding materials (sand, gravel, sandstone, limestone)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can reach deeper depths than other techniques Can penetrate sandstone, limestone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally small-diameter wells with little reservoir storage capacity
DRIVEN OR TESTED WELLS (Sand Points)	OVERBURDEN moderate to high-yielding materials (sand and gravel)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple installation can be done by hand or machine Wells can be hooked into one water-supply system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small diameter provides little reservoir storage capacity Depth is limited depends on tightness of overburden

YIELDS FROM DEEP OVERBURDEN - SUMMARY

Areas where deep overburden yields less than 2 gallons per minute are found in the northwestern part of the map area along the Niagara Escarpment in the Township of Nottawasaga where the overburden is thin and does not contain a significant water-bearing zone of 10 to 50 and over 50 gallons per minute generally are found where wells penetrate high yielding aquifers such as at Barrie and Bradford in the eastern part of the map area or the Alliston Aquifer Complex, which underlies most of the study area.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

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Geologic information was derived from water-well records on file with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment up to January 1978.

